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Export Certificate Report

**Country:** Colombia

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**Report Highlights:**

This report outlines Colombia's requirements for import permits and export certificates for multiple food products for human and animal consumption. It also provides a list of the Colombian government agencies involved in the entry of imported food products. For assistance on trade policy and port issues in Colombia, U.S. exporters are encouraged to contact FAS Bogota at [agbogota@fas.usda.gov](mailto:agbogota@fas.usda.gov) or [jose.quintero@usda.gov](mailto:jose.quintero@usda.gov).

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*DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-FAS) in Bogota, Colombia, for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies were not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVALS OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.*

### **Executive Summary**

The Colombian market is the leading destination for U.S. agricultural exports in South America. In 2021, the United States exported \$3.4 billion to Colombia, a 14 percent increase over 2020. Despite high inflation, the United States remains Colombia's top supplier of food and agricultural products. In 2022, from January to July, U.S. agricultural exports grew 33 percent, year-over-year. All export categories have displayed double digit growth in 2022. Top exports have historically included bulk commodities such as corn and soybeans, which combined, accounted for almost half of total exports in 2021. Colombia is a highly regulated yet growing market for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products, and as such, U.S. exporters are advised to be mindful of Colombian regulations, particularly certificate requirements, to avoid unnecessary port of entry issues.

This report contains general information on Colombia's certificate requirements established by Colombian government authorities for the importation of U.S. food and agricultural products into Colombia. These requirements stem from regulations issued primarily by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MHSP), the National Institute for the Surveillance of Food and Medicines (INVIMA), the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), and the Colombian Institute for Agriculture and Livestock (ICA). U.S. exporters are encouraged to work closely with their Colombian clients on delivering such certificates to the appropriate government authorities. Additionally, FAS Bogota frequently assists U.S. exporters when confronted with issues related to Colombian government authorities not accepting certificates for customs clearance at ports of entry.

### **SECTION I. LIST OF EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT**

<b>Product(s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
Beef	ICA Import Zoosanitary Permit <a href="#">USDA - FSIS Export Health Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Animal health and food safety	Ministry of Agriculture (Institute of Colombian Agriculture- ICA) and Ministry of Health and Social

				Protection (National Institute for the Surveillance of Food and Medicines- INVIMA)
Dairy products	Import Zoosanitary Permit  <a href="#">AMS Export Health Certificate</a> / Sanitary Certificate (except for re-exported dairy products for which APHIS will issue export certificates)	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Animal health and food safety	ICA and INVIMA
Fish, Crustaceans and Molluscs	Fish: Import ICA's Zoosanitary Permit (only whole, uneviscerated)  Crustaceans: ICA's Import Zoosanitary Permit (only uncooked)  Mollusks: ICA's Import Zoosanitary Permit (only uncooked)  <a href="#">HACCP Certification (NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)'s Export Health Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Animal health and food safety	ICA, INVIMA, and Colombia's National Authority of Fisheries and Aquaculture (AUNAP)
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	ICA's Import Phytosanitary Permit  <a href="#">USDA Phytosanitary Export Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Plant health and food safety	ICA and INVIMA
Grains	ICA's Import Phytosanitary Permit)  <a href="#">USDA Phytosanitary Export Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Plant health and food safety	ICA and INVIMA
Live animals	ICA's Import Zoosanitary Permit  <a href="#">USDA Export Health</a>	Fulfill health requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Animal health	ICA

	<a href="#">Certificate</a>			
Pet Food	ICA's Import Zoosanitary Permit  <a href="#">USDA Export Health Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/safety requirements set by Colombian authorities.	Animal health	ICA
Pork	ICA's Import Zoosanitary Permit  <a href="#">USDA - FSIS Export Health Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements according to import permit and sanitary inspection.	Food safety/ Animal Health Protection	ICA and INVIMA
Poultry	Import Zoosanitary Permit  <a href="#">USDA - FSIS Export Health Certificate</a>	Fulfill health/sanitary requirements according to import permit and sanitary inspection.	Food safety/ Animal Health Protection	ICA and INVIMA
Processed Food Products (not animal derived)	Export Sanitary Certificate/ Certificate of Free Sale (only for product registration)  This certificate is available at the state level: <a href="https://www.fas.usda.gov/certificate-free-sale-point-contact-list">https://www.fas.usda.gov/certificate-free-sale-point-contact-list</a>	The products exported are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements (must include shipment information)	Food safety/  Fulfill health requirements according to local sanitary authorities	INVIMA

## SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATES

### 1. Import Zoosanitary Permit

This document is issued by Colombia's Institute of Agriculture and Livestock (ICA) to the local importer, and it provides a formal authorization for the local importer to import certain animal and animal-derived products into Colombia under certain animal health requirements.

### 2. Import Phytosanitary Permit

This document is issued by Colombia's Institute of Agriculture and Livestock (ICA) to the local importer, and it provides a formal authorization for the local importer to import certain plant or plant products into Colombia under certain plant health requirements.

### **3. Phytosanitary Export Certificate**

This document is required by Colombia's Institute of Agriculture and Livestock (ICA) to prevent the introduction of foreign pests and diseases into Colombia. Certificates are issued by USDA.

### **4. Zoosanitary Export Certificate**

This document is required by Colombia's Institute of Agriculture and Livestock (ICA) to protect animal health and ensure foreign animal diseases are not introduced into Colombia. Certificates are issued by USDA.

### **5. Export Sanitary Certificate**

This document is required by Colombia's Ministry of Health and Social Protection (Decree 2478 of 2018), and the National Institute of Food and Drug Surveillance (INVIMA) for food safety purposes. Per Resolution 719 of 2015, food products that are classified as "medium" or "high" risk must submit this sanitary certificate.

### **6. Certificate of Free Sale**

This certificate is required for the registration of processed food products with INVIMA. The purpose of this certificate is to provide assurance to the Colombian authorities that the product is fit for human consumption and is freely sold in the country of origin. Registration of the product is valid for 5, 7, or 10 years depending on the risk classification assigned to the product (Resolution 719 of 2015). See Section I table.

## **SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATES**

A competent government authority from the exporting country must issue all required health and food safety certificates that Colombian authorities require. Please see the FAIRS narrative report to see registration requirements for different products. The certificate of free sale required by INVIMA for product registration and shipments entering Colombia must state that the product is of "free sale" in the country of origin and that the product is fit for human consumption. On the other hand, ICA requires specific attestations and traceability information on export certificates.

## **SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE'S LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Original export certificates listed under section one must accompany each individual export consignment at the time of entry into Colombia. It should be noted that in most cases, products exported to Colombia for human consumption must meet entry requirements set by ICA (animal and plant health) and INVIMA (human health), particularly animal-derived products. INVIMA and ICA have inspectors at all entry points in Colombia and have the discretion to detain or reject shipments based on their findings. A common reason for detained shipments has to do with certificate issuance dates, incorrect lot numbers and expiration dates, as well as the presence of foreign material on the bottom of containers. Food exporters interested in selling to Colombian retail clients must register their products before shipping and must obtain an import permit in Colombia prior to applying for export certificates in the United States.

# APPENDIX I. FSIS EXPORT FORM 9060-5

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0553-0153. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 25 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instruction, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  <b>Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness</b>	A knowingly false entry or false alteration of any entry on this certificate may result in a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both (18 U.S.C. 1001). Additional penalties exist under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 611(b) (1), (2); and (5), 21 U.S.C. 461) for an unauthorized or false alteration or misuse of this certificate.
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1. COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	2. ISO CODE	5. CERTIFICATE NUMBER <b>MPM-</b>	6. CERTIFICATE TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL <input type="checkbox"/> REPLACEMENT
3. CONSIGNOR/EXPORTER <i>(Applicant's name and address)</i>		PRODUCT EXPORTED FROM:	
4. CONSIGNEE/IMPORTER <i>(Name and address)</i>		7. EXPORT EST. NO. <i>(Name and address)</i>	
		8. TOTAL NET WEIGHT	9. TOTAL NO. OF PACKAGES

10. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT <i>(Name of product)</i>	11. NET WEIGHT OF LOT*	12. SPECIES	13. NUMBER OF PACKAGES IN LOT*	14. TYPE OF PACKAGES IN LOT*	15. SHIPPING/ IDENTIFICATION MARKS*	16. EST. NO. ON PRODUCT

\* As stated by applicant or contractor

17. REMARKS

- 18. I CERTIFY that the meat, meat food product or meat byproduct specified hereon is from animals that received both antemortem and postmortem inspection and were found sound and healthy and that it has been inspected and passed as provided by law and regulations of the Department and is sound and wholesome.
- 19. I CERTIFY that the poultry, poultry products or poultry food products specified above came from birds that were officially given an antemortem and postmortem inspection and passed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture and are wholesome and fit for human consumption.

NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY A CERTIFYING OFFICIAL OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM

By order of the Secretary of Agriculture		20. CERTIFYING OFFICIAL'S NAME AND TITLE <b>BRYAN SEIDEL</b> <small>c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of Agriculture, cn=BRYAN SEIDEL, 0.9.2342.19.200300.100.1.1=12001 002108044</small>	21. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)
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This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained.  
 This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.

## APPENDIX II: APHIS PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE  <b>PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE</b>  TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF <b>SAMPLE</b>		FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PLACE OF ISSUE <b>SAMPLE</b> NO. <b>FPC XXXXXXX</b> DATE INSPECTED	FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 0579-0052  
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>			
This is to certify that the plants, plant product or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests, specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.			
<b>DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT</b>			
1. DATE	2. TREATMENT		
3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)	4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE		
5. CONCENTRATION	6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT</b>			
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER	8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE		
<b>SAMPLE</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>		
9. NAME OF PRODUCE AND QUANTITY DECLARED	10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS		
<b>SAMPLE</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>		
11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES	12. DISTINGUISHING MARKS		
<b>SAMPLE</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>		
13. PLACE OF ORIGIN	14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE		
<b>SAMPLE</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>		
	15. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY		
<b>WARNING:</b> Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).			
<b>ADDITIONAL DECLARATION</b>			
<b>SAMPLE</b>	 <b>NAPPO</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>	
Page 1 of 1			
16. DATE ISSUED	17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print)	18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER	
No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.			

### APPENDIX III: APHIS EXPORT CERTIFICATE

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB OMS Approved control number. The valid OMB control numbers for this information collection are 0579-0052 and 0094. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.3 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. 0579-0052 and 0094

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE  <b>EXPORT CERTIFICATE</b> PROCESSED PLANT PRODUCTS	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY  PLACE: DATE: <b>SAMPLE</b> NUMBER: P XXXXXXXX	
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NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER  <b>SAMPLE</b>	NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE  <b>SAMPLE</b>
MEANS OF CONVEYANCE	POINT OF ENTRY

PRODUCT <i>(Kind, Quantity, and Weight)</i>	DESCRIPTION OF CONSIGNMENT
<b>SAMPLE</b>	<b>SAMPLE</b>

IDENTIFICATION

**SAMPLE**

ORIGIN

**WARNING:** Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).

This is to affirm that, based upon inspection of submitted samples and/or by virtue of processing received, the plant products described above are believed to be free from injurious plant pests.

**SAMPLE**

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NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

**SAMPLE**

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SIGNATURE

**Attachments:**

No Attachments